Textile Policy

1005. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main features of the present textile policy in vogue in the country;

(b) whether any change is contemplated in the present policy and if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what role has been assigned to small scale units in the new policy?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) A statement indicating the main features of the textile policy announced on 6th June, 1985 is attached.

(b) and (c) Government had appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Abid Hussain, the then Member of Planning Commission to review the implementation of the present textile policy. The Committee submitted its Report in January, 1990. The Committee has made a number of suggestions. The Report is under consideration of the Government.

Statement

The main features of the present Textile Policy are as follows:

(1) The main objective of the Textile Policy shall be to increase the production of cloth of acceptable quality at reasonable prices to meet the clothing requirements of a growing population. In the pursuit of this objective the availability of cloth at affordable prices for the poorer sections of the population shall be augmented.

(2) The Textile Industry shall be viewed in terms of the stages of its manufacturing process, namely, spinning, weaving and processing.

(3) The Industry shall be provided with fuller flexibility in the use of various fibres.

(4) The industry shall be subject to more pragmatic policies regarding creation or contraction of capacities by units in order to increase competition and promote healthy growth in the industry.

(5) In the spinning Sector, steps should be taken to ensure optimum utilisation of spinning capacity.

(6) In the weaving sector, the distinct and unique role of the handloom sector shall be preserved.

(7) Fiscal levies on man-made fibres/yarn, and on the intermediates used as inputs for the produtions of such fibres/yarn, shall be progressively reduced in such a manner as to facilitate absorption of increased domestic production so that the benefit flows to the consumer in the form of lower prices of synthetic and blended fabrics.

(8) The pre-eminent role of cotton as the main raw material of textile industry would be maintained.

(9) There shall be compulsory registration of all powerlooms.

(10) Greater emphasis will be placed on the modernisation of looms and provision of technological and other inputs for improving productivity of handlooms and the quality and finish of handloom products.

(11) Special efforts will be made to ensure adequate availability of yarn and other raw materials to handloom sector.

(12) Government policies would aim to accelerate the pace of modernisation in the industry.

(13) The indigenous textile machinery manufacturing industry shall be given encouragement to reduce costs, upgrade technology and improve the quality of machinery.

(14) Necessary steps will be taken to make our exports of textiles

more competitive in the world market in terms of both quality and prices.

(15) Encouragement and support will continue to be given to the Central Silk Board and the State Governments for rapid development of sericulture industry in all parts of the country.

(16) Programmes would be undertaken to augment the indigenous raw wool production in terms of both quality and quantity.

(17) The knitting and apparel manufacturing sectors contribute significantly to employment generation and export earnings besides meeting the domestic demand fo clothing. The Government shall pursue policies for strengthening, modernising and developing these sectors.

Tobacco purchased by Tobacco Board on auction

1006. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of tobacco purchased by the Tobacco Board on auction platforms during the last three years and how the same was disposed of;

(b) what was the profit/loss to the Board in this operation;

(c) whether any amount of the profit was distributed amongst the tobacco growers; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) Tobacco Board did not purchase any tobacco on auction Platforms during 1988, 1989 and 1990.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Incentives to exporters with nil import content

1007. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian exporters are being offered various incentives to import goods against their exports;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there are many exporters of manufactured goods whose import content is nil; and

(c) if so, when incentives are being offered to such exporters?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) to (c) The registered exporters are allowed by way of replenishment, the essential inputs required in the manufacture of the products exported and to allow flexibility to enable diversification of the export products. The replenishment licences are issued irrespective of the fact that the manufactured product has any import content, provided the item of export is not covered by the list of export products ineligible for import replenishment licences, as specified in the Import Policy.

Top ten exporters in the country

1008. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the top ten exporters in the country whose exports exceeded Rs. 50 crore in 1989-90 but whose net foreign exchange earnings were less than Rs. 50 crore in that year; and

(b) what are the details of the top ten exporters in the country whose exports exceeded Rs. 50 crore in 1989-90 but whose net foreign exchange earnings were nil during that year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI